



# News Release

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360-236-4022  
360-236-4700

## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency Web site. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## Benton County

In May 2009 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System Program charged emergency medical technician **Brigit C. Strunk** (ES01170357) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly filled a prescription in her name when the prescription hadn't been authorized by the prescriber. She also allegedly failed to respond to department inquiries about the allegation.

## Chelan County

In May 2009 the Registered Counselor Program placed the registration of **Gary Nicholson** (RC00039881) on probation for two years. He entered into a personal relationship with a client. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

## Clark County

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy reprimanded pharmacist **Erica L. Elliott** (PH00051605). Her license to practice as a pharmacist in Oregon was restricted.

In May 2009 the Dental Commission released dentist **Wallace V. Teuscher** (DE00002435) from conditions set against his license in 2005. In 2008 Teuscher surrendered his license.

## **King County**

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Keslyn M. Boster** (NC60021747) and placed conditions against her certification. She was convicted of arson and must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In May 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **George F. Brummell** (RC60073039) and placed his registration on probation for three years. He was convicted of robbery, possessing stolen property, forgery, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, delivery of a substance in lieu of a controlled substance on more than one occasion, delivery of heroin, and possession of cocaine and heroin. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

In April 2009 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Kenneth G. Chew** (RN00046905). He failed to comply with previous terms and conditions. He must comply with new terms and conditions set against his license.

In May 2009 the Dental Commission granted the application of dental assistant **Alicia D. Jones** (D160059614) and placed conditions against her credential. She was convicted of possession of a controlled substance – heroin on more than one occasion. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

## **Pierce County**

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Tammy Dianne Allen** (NC10026194) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly stole checks from a patient and cashed several of them. She can't be employed or have unsupervised access to vulnerable adults and faces criminal charges on four counts of forgery and four counts of theft.

In May 2009 the Medical Commission charged physician **Pamela D. Cowell** (MD00036597) with unprofessional conduct. The care she provided allegedly fell below the standard while treating a patient resulting in patient harm.

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of **Danielle N. Johnson** (NA60027999) and placed restrictions on her registration. She was convicted of two counts of unlawful issuance of bank checks, and possession of stolen property on more than one occasion. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Chantile C. Sager** (NC60038006) and placed her certification on probation for two years. Her registration to practice as a nursing assistant was placed on probation for two years. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Melissa K. Segro** (NA00163914) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly accepted money from a patient and agreed to buy a bracelet from another patient, but failed to pay for it.

In April 2009 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with licensed practical nurse **Michelle A. Waelty** (LP00043031). She misused drugs including drugs not prescribed for her. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

### **Snohomish County**

In April 2009 the Board of Pharmacy denied the application of pharmacy assistant **Corey Allen Morken** (VB60039880). He was convicted of assault, driving under the influence, attempting to elude, and reckless driving.

### **Spokane County**

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Cassandra A. Bieber** (NC10038474) with unprofessional conduct. She was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion.

### **Stevens County**

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Lacey B. Sell** (NC10094293) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly diverted drugs from her place of employment and assisted her boyfriend in taking drugs from the long-term care facility. She was convicted of six counts of theft, and four counts of burglary.

### **Thurston County**

In April 2009 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with licensed practical nurse **Beatrice E. Safford** (LP00044634). She failed to comply with previous terms and conditions. She must comply with new terms and conditions set against her license.

In May 2009 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Matthew Schneider** (LP00055269) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly tested positive for controlled substances during a urinalysis, and diverted drugs from a patient.

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy terminated the order of probation against pharmacist **David T. Zumek** (PH00007580).

### **Walla Walla County**

In May 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of registered nurse **Joy Ann Moniz** (RN00106955) and placed her license on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

### **Whatcom County**

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with certified nursing assistant **Heidi L. Cayce** (NC10076133). She failed to respond to department inquiries regarding an allegation she had verbally abused a patient. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In May 2009 the Registered Counselor Program reinstated the registration of **Benita A. Esposito** (RC00015122).

In April 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of registered nurse **Albert C. Snow** (RN00114689).

### **Yakima County**

In April 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Jessica O. Folden** (NA00198962). She was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance and failed to respond to department inquiries about the arrest.

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy placed the license of pharmacist **Lacie J. Zavala** (PH00070140) on probation for five years. She wrote and filled fraudulent prescriptions for herself and family members. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

### **Out of State**

**Idaho:** In May 2009 the Medical Commission released physician **David L. Schenkar** (MD00011364) from the conditions set against his license. Dr. Schenkar's license is unrestricted.

**Oregon:** In April 2009 the Nursing Commission lifted the suspension against the license of registered nurse **Jessica Scharf** (RN00153752) and placed her license on probation until her Oregon license is fully reinstated. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

**Wisconsin:** In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy terminated the order of probation against pharmacist **Gilliam Sanford** (PH00017262).

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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